



Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

Soundboard

December 2005

Year 22

Issue 12

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hello Everyone,

We're nearly to the end of the 2005 calendar year, and I thought I would look back on this year's events. The year started with the Buckeye Festival in March, (a little cold in Northern Ohio) with many of our members attending. The Evert Fun Fest in July had the largest SSDS membership attendance, but the Midland Festival, held in August, is gaining in popularity.

In late April, We tried Dollywood, for the International Music Festival again this year, but I was the only one who attended. I did have a good time, and the music was great. Maybe next year we can try this one again.

The Myer's Lake Campout in June was a huge success with the workshops, the swiss steak dinner, and lots of jamming. A big **THANK YOU** goes to **Marlin and Carol Harmon** for their hard work.

The SSDS Picnic at German Park in Ann Arbor was well attended. We had beautiful weather, roast pig, a fantastic potluck, and good music.

THANK YOU to **Evie and Jim Bain** for bringing back the SSDS Banquet, and planning this event. The banquet was held at the beautiful Fox Hills Country Club in Plymouth. The food was excellent, and of course, the music, too.

Here is a big **THANK YOU** to **Ramona Hadley**, our Business Manager, for booking and keeping track of all those playdates, (and attendees) this past year. I even got a few calls for possible playdates, and referred them to Ramona, to see if we could work them into our schedule. It is hard sometimes to turn these people down.

Bob Hlavacek, our treasurer deserves a big **THANK YOU** for tracking our finances and reporting to the club. We changed banking institutions this year, which resulted in savings for the club. And a special **THANK YOU** to his wife, **Sandi**, for all the work she has done on our monthly newsletter.

THANK YOU to **Sharon McAuliffe and Roger Davis** (both Past Presidents) for leading the songs when I'm not there, or when I don't seem to remember how to start a particular song. **THANK YOU** to our Music Coordinator, **Roger Davis** for

introducing new songs, and organizing and publishing our monthly performance list for playdates.

We had a few 5th Thursday Variety nights this year, and as always the music and Masters of Ceremonies were excellent... and the food was great !

We can be proud of the construction and maintenance of the new SSDS website. **MANY THANKS** to **Karen Turner** !!! There is a lot of frustration with keeping anything up to date, and we should all thank Karen for sharing her time and talent.

Big **THANK YOUS** go to **David Smith** for taking all of those pictures at our club events and keeping up the historical prospective for our club. SSDS is currently celebrating our 22nd year in existence.

The ukulele group is gaining popularity. I didn't realize there were so many who like to sing. They are even going out of state now, to perform at ukefests. **THANKS** to **Theresa Smith and John McAuliffe** for all they do. Maybe some of you can entertain at some of our playdates next year.

A **BIG THANK YOU** goes out to all of you who attended the many playdates throughout the year and to all who brought refreshments to our Thursday meetings. Without your participation, the year would not have been so good !!!

Don't forget about the potluck being held at the last meeting in December. We are going to play some music and sing some Christmas songs for the people of Good Hope Lutheran Church

Now that elections are over, we're getting ready for another great year. If you would like to volunteer for some special event next year, or have an idea for something different for the coming year, please contact one of the board members, or jot it down on a piece of paper for the suggestion box.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

George

Holiday gifting is in the air...

A female five string banjo player was heard shouting at her boyfriend in a crowded mall. "Don't forget, Sweetheart, I need a new G-string!"

On November 3rd, the SSDS board members were unanimously elected for another year. Sincere thanks to all of our board, George Gonyo, Ramona Hadley, Marlin Harmon, Carol Harmon, & Bob Hlavacek for the outstanding jobs you did the past year.

I've heard nothing but praise & good comments on your job performances. We look forward to having you as our officers again.

A special thanks to our appointed position members, Roger Davis, Sandi Hlavacek, Karen Turner, and David Smith. You guys are great !
Dorothy Ewald (elections chair)

NOTES FROM THE MUSIC MAN . . .

A little critique of our first two Christmas play dates results in the first one were "so so", and the second was very good. See what practice and sticking with the play list will accomplish ?.

We need to keep in mind that several of our players come to the playdate with only the music that is on the play list, and they have it in the order listed. It appears that "Hey Polka" is a popular song that we like to perform, so everyone should always bring that music with them.

Starting in January, we should consider getting back to our open jam after 9:00 PM. If you have a suggestion for a song of the month, please let me know.

Roger

Please note some minor changes...

SILVER STRINGS Holiday Play List

		first note	
1 G	Jingle Bells	chor+2	B
2 G	Red Wing	3X	D
3 G	Away in a Manger	3X	D
4 G	Deck the Halls	3X	D
5 G	Red Apple Rag	3X	D
6 C	Winter Wonderland	2X	G
7 C	Silver Bells	3X	C
8 EM	We Three Kings	3X	B
9 D	Angle Worm Wiggle	3X	A
10 C	Tennessee Waltz	2X	C
11 G	Joy To the World	3X	G
12 G	Let It Snow	2X	D
13 D	Festival Rag	3X	A
14 D	Rudolph	3X	A
15 DM	What Child is This(Greensleeves)3x		D
16 G	Westphalia Waltz	2X	D
17 D	Frosty the Snowman	2+ end	A
18 D	Simple Gifts	3X	A
19 G	Silver and Gold Two Step	3X	B
20 G	Angels We Have Heard	3X	B
21 DG	Silent Night	2,g chrd,2 A&D	
22 G	We Wish You a Merry Ch-mas	chor,vrs,D	chor

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POT LUCK DINNER

Remember that our SSDS potluck dinner will be **Thursday, December 15th at 6:45 pm.**

We will perform a short Christmas program for the members of Good Hope Lutheran Church at 8:00 pm.

There will be a sign up sheet at the next meeting so you can let us know what favorite dish you will be adding to the dinner. The club will provide ham. See you there.

Ramona

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How do you know when there is a bodhran player at your front door?

The knocking gets faster and faster and faster.

V. P. OF BUSINESS.

Santa's elves aren't the only ones who are really busy this month. Our SSDS play schedule runs from the beginning of the month right through December 18th.

Thank you to all who have signed up to play this holiday season. As of this writing, we have enough musicians for each date. If you have e-mail, you will receive a reminder from me about a week before the play date for which you signed up. Please be sure to respond upon receipt of the e-mail. Remember that we will wear holiday attire... something festive to reflect the season. Any questions, feel free to contact me.

Steve and I wish you and yours a joyous holiday season.
 Ramona

MARK YOUR CALENDAR :

Dec. 2	SSDS playdate	7-8:00 pm
	@ Grand Court, Farmington Hills	
Dec. 3	SSDS playdate2-3:00 pm
	@ Comerica Bank, Dearborn	
Dec. 4	Happy Birthday Dave Lovelace !	
Dec. 5	SSDS playdate.	6:30-7:15 pm
	@ Cherry Hill Presbyterian, Dbn.	
Dec. 6	SSDS playdate	6:30-7:30 pm
	@ Rivergate Terrace, Riverview	
Dec. 9	SSDS playdate	7:30-8:30 pm
	@ Gibraltar Community Center	
Dec. 13	SSDS playdate,	7-8:00 pm
	@ Northville Library, Northville	
Dec. 15	SSDS playdate	12:15-1:00 pm
	@ Livonia Public Library	
Dec. 15	SSDS Holiday Potluck	6:45 pm
	@ Good Hope Church	
Dec 16	SSDS playdate	1 - 2:30 pm
	@ Northville Presbyterian Church	
Dec.18	SSDS playdate,	10-11:00 am
	@ Franklin Community Church, Franklin	
Dec. 31	Happy Birthday Sandi Hlavacek !	
Jan. 1	HAPPY NEW YEAR, EVERYONE !	

NOTES FROM "TWO TURTLE DOVES".....

We would like to thank everyone for the best time of our lives this year, playing our instruments and having fellowship with the nicest people we have ever known.. We are hoping to continue this trend through the coming year.

We would also like to say thank you very much for all the friends and people who have brought refreshments. May you all continue to do that.

Marlin Harmon, V.P. Programs
Carol Harmon, Secretary

What did the guitarist do when his teacher told him to turn his amplifier on?

He caressed it softly and told it that he loved it.

YOU CAN BANK ON THISTREASURER

Summer is over. The elections are over. I would like to **thank** all who have expressed confidence, and given me encouragement this past year. **Thank you** to the election committee, Dorothy Ewald (Chairwoman), Theresa Smith and Peggy Kustra. I love your volunteer spirit !!! Serving an organization of 145 members does take coordination and effort. Speaking of volunteers, we always need help with refreshments at our meetings and variety nights. (Remember, chocolate is one of the basic food groups.) We appreciate volunteers who help organize the food and drinks before the meeting, and help clean up after the break. Everyone does enjoy the snacks and socializing. If everyone took a turn only once during the year, it would be 5 years before your turn comes around again.

All of the board members will be serving a second term in the coming year. According to the by-laws, a board member can hold their position only two years. So, if you have a few organizational skills, start considering who you would like to have serve on the board in 2007. It is a trait of a good leader, to develop successors for his/her job.

I am publishing a member roster that will be available at the 2 jam meetings in December. If you have any receipts to turn in, please do so before the end of December, so I can do a true year end report.

We have a busy month of holiday play dates
Bob Hlavacek treasurer

To David Smith for all the great pictures and articles for the Soundboard, and Karen Turner for posting on the web, An especially huge **THANK YOU**...You are the greatest!
Sandi Hlavacek, editor

**Christmas...Hanukkah...Kwanzaa, too....
Whatever you celebrate, we wish for you
a peaceful time, a time of great cheer,
love, joy and prosperity for a
HAPPY NEW YEAR !**

Bob & Sandi Hlavacek

DECEMBER VARIETY NIGHT ?

The general feeling of members seems to be that we should not have a 5th Thursday Variety night on December 29th. We will have our usual meeting / jam Dec. 1st, the potluck / concert on the 15th, and 10 playdates throughout the month. We will resume our regular schedule with the January.5th meeting.

This was sent to me by Alice Avery. Since we are heading from one holiday into another, I'm sharing it with you all. Humor is always a great gift ! editor

'Twas the night of Thanksgiving, But I just couldn't sleep
I tried counting backwards, I tried counting sheep.
The leftovers beckoned - The dark meat and white
But I fought the temptation With all of my might.

Tossing and turning with anticipation
The thought of a snack became infatuation.
So, I raced to the kitchen, flung open the door
And gazed at the fridge, full of goodies galore.

I gobbled up turkey and buttered potatoes,
Pickles and carrots, beans and tomatoes.
I felt myself swelling so plump and so round,
'Til all of a sudden, I rose off the ground.

I crashed through the ceiling, floating into the sky
With a mouthful of pudding and a handful of pie.
But, I managed to yell as I soared past the trees...
Happy eating to all - Pass the cranberries, please.

May your stuffing be tasty, May your turkey be plump.
May your potatoes 'n gravy, Have nary a lump,
May your yams be delicious, May your pies take the prize,
May your Thanksgiving dinner, Stay off of your thighs.

People have asked, "Why can't we have something besides pizza to eat on variety night ?" So... the last time we had half pizza, and half Subway sandwiches. Did you like the change ?

Do you have any other ideas ? Would you be interested in a "chili cook-off" ? We could do it for a prize, or do it for a charity. How about a "soup bar" this winter ?

This is YOUR CLUB ! Give us some ideas ! We want your input. **Please... talk to a board member or use the suggestion box.** Editor